

# John Arnatt

**John Edwin Arnatt** (9 May 1917 – 21 December 1999) was a British actor.<sup>[1]</sup>

## Early life and education

John Arnatt was born in Petrograd, Russia on 9 May 1917. His parents were Francis and Ethel Marion (née Jephcott) Arnatt. He attended Epworth College. Arnatt trained for the stage at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art.<sup>[2]</sup>

## Career

One of Arnatt's most high-profile roles was as "The Deputy Sheriff of Nottingham" in the fourth and final season of 1955–60 TV series *The Adventures of Robin Hood* starring Richard Greene. His character filled in for Alan Wheatley, who played the regular sheriff. Arnatt's character was introduced and interacted with Wheatley's character in the episode "The Devil You Don't Know". In the 1962 film *Dr Crippen*, starring Donald Pleasence (who also had a recurring role in "The Adventures of Robin Hood" as Prince John), Arnatt played Chief Inspector Walter Dew.<sup>[3]</sup> Arnatt also played an imitation "M" to Tom Adams' imitation James Bond in two films, *Licensed to Kill* and *Where the Bullets Fly* (1966). In 1967, Arnatt got something of a promotion when he played the High Sheriff of Nottingham opposite Barrie Ingham's Robin in the film *A Challenge for Robin Hood*.<sup>[4]</sup>

Never well known, he amassed numerous television credits in programmes such as *Steptoe and Son*, *Keeping Up Appearances*, *Dangerfield*, *Lovejoy*, *The Professionals*, *House of Cards*, *Thriller* and *Z-Cars*. He had a recurring role in the first two series of the ITV legal drama, *The Main Chance* (1969–70) and in *Doctor Who* he was the second actor to play Time Lord Cardinal Borusa in the serial *The Invasion of Time* (1978). Later, in the television film, *Marple: The Moving Finger* (1985), he played Reverend Guy Calthrop.<sup>[5]</sup>

In 1995 he was elected Master of the Green Room Lodge no. 2957.

## Death

John Arnatt	
	
<b>Born</b>	John Edwin Arnatt 9 May 1917 Petrograd, Russia
<b>Died</b>	21 December 1999 (aged 82) Surrey, England, UK
<b>Nationality</b>	British
<b>Occupation</b>	Actor
<b>Spouses</b>	Betty Huntley-Wright (m. 1948, divorced) Sheila Tracy (m. 1962)
<b>Children</b>	1

John Arnatt died at the age of 82 on 21 December 1999.<sup>[6]</sup>

## Filmography

---

### Film

Year	Film	Role	Notes
1948	<i>The Only Way</i>	Marquis de Boulainvilliers	TV film
	<i>Fly Away Peter</i>	John Neilson	TV film
	<i>At the Villa Rose</i>	Harry Wethermill	TV film
1949	<i>Meet Simon Cherry</i>	Tommy	Uncredited
1950	<i>Dick Barton at Bay</i>	Jackson	
1951	<i>Cry, the Beloved Country</i>	Prison Warden	Uncredited
1952	<i>Circumstantial Evidence</i>	Steve Harrison	
1953	<i>House of Blackmail</i>	Pete Carter	
1954	<i>Forbidden Cargo</i>	Customs Officer	Uncredited
1955	<i>The Star Without a Name</i>	Grig	TV film
	<i>Richard of Bordeaux</i>	Henry Bolingbroke, Earl of Derby	TV film
1956	<i>The End Begins</i>	Hugh Pakenham	TV film
	<i>For the Defence</i>	Crawford	TV film
	<i>Tearaway</i>	Chief Inspector Ball	TV film
1957	<i>The Trial of Mary Dugan</i>	District Attorney Galwey	TV film
	<i>The Passionate Stranger</i>	Maurice Lamport	
	<i>The Indifferent Shepherd</i>	Hugh Wigmore	TV film
1958	<i>Hunted</i>	Doctor Hildo	TV film
	<i>Background</i>	Bill Ogden	TV film
1960	<i>The Bulldog Breed</i>	Briggs	Uncredited
1961	<i>No Love for Johnnie</i>	Gregson, BBC Reporter	Uncredited
	<i>The Impersonator</i>	Detective Superintendent Fletcher	
	<i>Whistle Down the Wind</i>	Superintendent Teesdale	
	<i>The Third Alibi</i>	Superintendent Ross	
1962	<i>Only Two Can Play</i>	Bill	
	<i>Out of the Fog</i>	Detective Superintendent Chadwick	
1963	<i>Shadow of Fear</i>	Sharp	
	<i>Dr. Crippen</i>	Inspector Dew	
	<i>The Set Up</i>	Superintendent Ross	
1964	<i>Clash by Night</i>	Inspector Croft	
1965	<i>Joey Boy</i>	Brigadier Charles Chapman	

	<i>Hysteria</i>	Mr. James	
	<i>Licensed to Kill</i>	Rockwell	
1966	<i>Where the Bullets Fly</i>	Rockwell	
1967	<i>A Challenge for Robin Hood</i>	Sheriff of Nottingham	
	<i>Our Mother's House</i>	Man Client	
1971	<i>Crucible of Terror</i>	Bill	
1973	<i>Paganini Strikes Again</i>	Inspector Mainwaring	
1975	<i>A Suitable Case for Killing?</i>	Public Prosecutor	TV film documentary
1979	<i>Licensed to Love and Kill</i>	Merlin	
1997	<i>A Royal Scandal</i>	Archbishop	TV film

## Television

Year	Film	Role	Notes
1953-1957	<i>Sunday Night Theatre</i>	Various roles	6 episodes
1954	<i>Emney Enterprises</i>		1 episode
1955	<i>The Granville Melodramas</i>	Captain Skinner	Episode: "The Silver King"
	<i>Colonel March of Scotland Yard</i>	Wesley	Episode: "The Case of the Misguided Missal"
	<i>London Playhouse</i>	Finch	Episode: "Fighting Chance"
1955-1961	<i>ITV Television Playhouse</i>	Various roles	4 episodes
1956	<i>My Friend Charles</i>	Detective Inspector Dane	Recurring role
	<i>The Adventures of the Big Man</i>	Owen Carrigan	Episode: "Rich Girl"
	<i>The Other Man</i>	Harry Vincent	2 episodes
	<i>ITV Play of the Week</i>	Bernard K. Froy	Episode: "I Killed the Count"
1957	<i>Escape</i>	Tom	2 episodes
	<i>Sword of Freedom</i>	Count Ugo	Episode: "The Woman in the Picture"
	<i>Dixon of Dock Green</i>	Inspector Dix	Episode: "Silver Jubilee"
1958	<i>The Diary of Samuel Pepys</i>	Duke of Albemarie	Series regular
	<i>The Royalty</i>	John Andrews	Series regular
1959	<i>The Last Chronicle of Barset</i>	Mr. Robarts	Recurring role
	<i>The Invisible Man</i>	Lord Perversham	Episode: "The Big Plot"
	<i>Armchair Theatre</i>	Dr. Lederer	Episode: "A House of His Own"
1960	<i>The Adventures of Robin Hood</i>	Deputy Sheriff of Nottingham	Series regular
1961	<i>Probation Officer</i>	Sergeant Conway	1 episode
	<i>ITV Play of the Week</i>	Alec	Episode: "Doctor Everyman's Hour"

	<u>Deadline Midnight</u>	Pearce	Episode: "Take Over"
	<u>BBC Sunday-Night Play</u>	Superintendent Harding	Episode: "The Test"
1962	<u>Sir Francis Drake</u>	Duke of Cordova	2 episodes
	<u>Armchair Theatre</u>	General von Schiltz	Episode: "Night Conspirators"
	<u>Probation Officer</u>	Ralph Cooper	1 episode
	<u>The Saint</u>	Major Fanshire	Episode: "The Arrow of God"
	<u>Edgar Wallace Mysteries</u>	Superintendent Ross	Episode: "The Set Up"
1963	<u>The Human Jungle</u>	Recorder	Episode: "Time-Check"
	<u>The Plane Makers</u>	Peter Humphreys	Episode: "Too Much to Lose"
1963-1964	<u>Emergency Ward 10</u>	Doctor Fitzgerald	Series regular
1964	<u>Miss Adventure</u>		Episode: "The Velvet Touch"
	<u>Fire Crackers</u>	Station Officer Blazer	Recurring role
	<u>Sykes and a...</u>		Episode: "Sykes and a Bird"
1965	<u>The Airbase</u>	Air Commodore	Episode: "Peace at Any Price"
	<u>The Third Man</u>	Count Hagar	Episode: "Man at the Top"
	<u>Z-Cars</u>	Briggs	Episode: "A Matter of Give and Take"
1966	<u>Dixon of Dock Green</u>	John Chiltern	Episode: "The Fourth Finger"
1968	<u>Z-Cars</u>	Frank Bowers	Episode: "Blame It on Father Christmas"
1969	<u>Callan</u>	High Commissioner	Episode: "Blackmailers Should Be Discouraged"
	<u>Strange Report</u>	Inspector Hughes	Episode: "Kidnap - Whose Pretty Girl Are You?"
1969-1970	<u>The Main Chance</u>	Sidney Bulmer	Series regular
1970	<u>Take Three Girls</u>	Doctor	Episode: "Variation on May and September"
	<u>Randall and Hopkirk (Deceased)</u>	Uniformed Inspector	Episode: "Could You Recognise the Man Again?"
	<u>Steptoe and Son</u>	Copeland	Episode: "The Three Feathers"
1972	<u>Doctor in Charge</u>	Dr. Lanchbery	Episode: "Doctors' Lib"
	<u>Man at the Top</u>	Ogilvie	Episode: "Don't Rock the Boat"
	<u>Thirty-Minute Theatre</u>	Coroner	Episode: "The Seventh Juror"
	<u>Softly, Softly: Taskforce</u>	Chief Constable Daniels	Episode: "On the Third Day"
	<u>The Pathfinders</u>	Wing Commander Alexander	Episode: "Sitting Ducks"
1973	<u>Barlow</u>	Chief Constable Daniels	Episode: "Publicity"
	<u>Special Branch</u>	Denning	Episode: "The Other Man"
	<u>Freewheelers</u>	Hassell	3 episodes
1974	<u>Marked Personal</u>	James Lawrence	2 episodes

	<u>Thriller</u>	Mr. Robinson	Episode: "Sign It Death"
	<u>General Hospital</u>	James Lytton	1 episode
1975	<u>Crown Court</u>	Harold Gilman	Episode: "The Obsession"
	<u>Doctor on the Go</u>	Mr. Edwards	Episode: "Clunk Click"
1977	<u>The Cedar Tree</u>	General Von Heynig	2 episodes
1978	<u>Doctor Who</u>	Borusa	The Invasion of Time
1979	<u>Turning Year Tales</u>	Cyril Muncaster	Episode: "Clubs"
	<u>Thundercloud</u>	Vicar	Episode: "Bats in the Belfry"
	<u>The Onedin Line</u>	Mr. Ramsden	Episode: "Storm Clouds"
1980	<u>The Professionals</u>	Humber	Episode: "Black Out"
	<u>Rings on Their Fingers</u>	Mr. Taylor	Episode: "Ladies Man"
1981	<u>Shelley</u>	Thomas Humphries	Episode: "Signing On"
	<u>Wilfred and Eileen</u>	Major	1 episode
1981-1986	<u>The Kenny Everett Television Show</u>	Various roles	10 episodes
1982	<u>King's Royal</u>	Sir James Spence	1 episode
	<u>Jackanory</u>	King	Episode: "Ivan the Ninny"
1983	<u>The Cleopatras</u>	Sophron	Episode: "80 BC"
	<u>Don't Wait Up</u>	Man at cricket match	1 episode
1984	<u>Tripper's Day</u>	Customer	Episode: "Special Offers"
1985	<u>Miss Marple</u>	Reverend Guy Calthrop	Episodes: "The Moving Finger"
1986	<u>Bluebell</u>	Pierre	2 episodes
1990	<u>House of Cards</u>	Sir Jasper Grainger	Miniseries
1992	<u>Covington Cross</u>	Doctor 1	Episode: "The Persecution"
1993	<u>Lovejoy</u>	Stanley Barton	Episode: "Lovejoy Loses It"
	<u>Alleyn Mysteries</u>	Nash	Episode: "The Nursing Home Murder"
	<u>Keeping Up Appearances</u>	Sir Edward	Episode: "Looking at Properties"
	<u>If You See God, Tell Him</u>	National Telephone Grandad	1 episode
1995	<u>Dangerfield</u>	Harry Campbell	Recurring role
1999	<u>Dad</u>	Mr. Jarrold	Episode: "Securidad"

## References

1. "John Arnatt" (<https://web.archive.org/web/20120714045744/http://explore.bfi.org.uk/4ce2b9fee91e9>). BFI. Archived from the original (<http://explore.bfi.org.uk/4ce2b9fee91e9>) on 14 July 2012.
2. Ian Herbert, ed. (1981). "ARNATT, John". *Who's Who in the Theatre*. Vol. 1. Gale Research Company. p. 22–23. ISSN 0083-9833 (<https://www.worldcat.org/issn/0083-9833>).

3. shatteredillusions (3 June 1966). "[Dr. Crippen \(1963\)](https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0055927/)" (<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0055927/>). IMDb.
4. "[John Arnatt](http://movie-dude.co.uk/John%20Arnatt.htm)" (<http://movie-dude.co.uk/John%20Arnatt.htm>). movie-dude.co.uk.
5. "[John Arnatt](http://www.aveleyman.com/ActorCredit.aspx?ActorID=556)" (<http://www.aveleyman.com/ActorCredit.aspx?ActorID=556>). aveleyman.com.
6. Shorter, Eric (7 January 2000). "[John Arnatt](https://www.theguardian.com/news/2000/jan/07/guardianobituaries1)" (<https://www.theguardian.com/news/2000/jan/07/guardianobituaries1>). *The Guardian*. Retrieved 3 July 2009.

## External links

---

- [John Arnatt](https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0036031/) (<https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0036031/>) at IMDb

---

Retrieved from "[https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=John\\_Arnatt&oldid=1165505224](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=John_Arnatt&oldid=1165505224)"

■